



The Season of Easter

Gathering

Prelude "Slane" Hal Hopson

Opening Hymn #292 O Jesus, Crowned with All Renown
(See bulletin p.13)

All standing, the Celebrant says:

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Collect for Purity

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Hymn of Praise #679 Surely It Is God Who Saves Me
(See bulletin p.14)

Collect of the Day

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Officiant: Let us pray: O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Readings

The First Reading: Acts 10:44–48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, “Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Response: Psalm 98

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The LORD has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown
in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness
to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory
of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the LORD with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.

- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

The Second Reading: 1 John 5:1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

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Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn

LEVAS #35 O How He Loves You and Me
(See bulletin p.14)

The Gospel: John 15:9–17



Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, “As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Rev. Annette Joseph

Affirmation of Faith

Celebrant: Let us affirm our faith: Do you believe in God?

People: We believe in God the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.

Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

People: We believe in Jesus Christ,
God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

People: We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. *Amen.*

Celebrant: May Almighty God, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, and called us to ministry in Jesus Christ, keep us in eternal life by his grace; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Prayers of the People

Reader: We open our hearts and minds and pray to you God.
We pray for the church around the world, may we find
we are sisters and brothers and stop finding what
divides us.

[Please add your petitions.]

God, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for this nation and all the nations of the world that they may consider the common good and hold up the least of these.

[Please add your petitions.]

God, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer

Reader: We pray for those whose lives have been touched by violence and angry, hateful words. We ask you to remind us of your grace, mercy, and love for all you have created.

[Please add your petitions.]

God, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Reader: We ask for you to hold these prayers for our communities and especially for the homeless and those who struggle.

[Please add your petitions.]

God, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Reader: We lift up to you the concerns of those here present and those not with us especially:

[Please add your petitions.]

God, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Reader: We thank you for the beauty of your creation and all the blessings of this life. For those things which remind us of You.

[Please add your petitions.]

God, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Reader: We ask for the comfort of those who grieve and peace to the departed (especially...)

[Please add your petitions.]

God, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

The Prayers conclude with the following or some other suitable prayer:

Celebrant: God of love, our refuge and our strength, hear the prayers of your Church, and grant us today what we ask of you in faith. Through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

The Peace

The peace is exchanged:

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

We greet each other in the name of the risen Christ.

Here at Christ Church, we consider gratitude and generosity to be spiritual disciplines. While some of us still can't be together to pass the collection plate to one another in person, we encourage you to offer your gifts and service in any way that makes the most sense to you.

[Click here](#) to contribute to our ongoing ministry by donating online.

Celebrant: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. (*Ephesians 5:2*)

Offertory Hymn

#488 Be Thou My Vision
(See bulletin p.15)

Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

The People remain standing.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. —

The people stand or kneel. The Celebrant continues:

Celebrant: Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said:

“Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said:

“Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

And so, remembering all that was done for us: The cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ’s coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

All: Dying, you destroyed our death.
 Rising, you restored our life.
 Christ Jesus, come in glory!

Celebrant: Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit’s power, may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

All: Blessed are you now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

People: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed by thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power,
and the glory,
forever and ever. *Amen.*

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. *Alleluia!*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sins - of the world: have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Setting: Robert Powell (b. 1932)

Communion

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion Hymn

LEVAS #151 One Bread, One Body

(See bulletin p.16)

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

St. Augustine's Prayer Book, p.192

Celebrant: Our Jesus, we believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament. We love you above all things and we desire you in our souls. Since we cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into our hearts. As though you were already there, we embrace you and unite ourselves wholly to you; never permit us to be separated from you. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

After communion, the Celebrant says:

Celebrant: Let us pray:

All: Lord Jesus Christ, you have put your life in our hands;
now we put our lives into yours.
Take us, renew and remake us.
What we have been is past;
What we shall be, through you, still awaits us.
Lead us on. Take us with you. *Amen.*

The Blessing

Celebrant: May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. *Amen.*

Closing Hymn #400 All Creatures of Our God and King
(See bulletin p.18)

Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. *Alleluia! Alleluia!*

People: Thanks be to God. *Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Postlude “Lasst Uns Erfreusen” Hal Hopson

Servers

<i>Priest-in-Charge</i>	Rev. Annette Joseph
<i>Reader</i>	Carl Muench
<i>Host</i>	Sue Balsamo
<i>Organist</i>	Mary Miller
<i>Choir Director</i>	Randyn Heisserer-Miller
<i>Ministry Intern</i>	Joshua Smith

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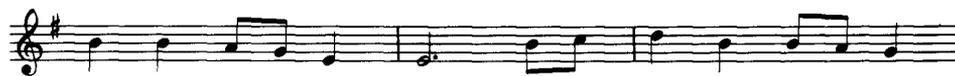
O Jesus, Crowned with All Renown



1 O Je - sus, crowned with all re - nown, since thou the earth hast
 2 Lord, in their change, let frost and heat, and winds and dews be
 3 that we may feed the poor a - right, and, gath - ering round thy



trod, thou reign - est and by thee come down hence -
 given; all fos - tering power, all in - fluence sweet, breathe
 throne, here, in the ho - ly an - gel's sight, re -



forth the gifts of God. Thine is the health and
 from the boun - teous heaven. At - tem - per fair with
 pay thee of thine own: That we may praise thee



thine the wealth that in our halls a - bound, and
 gen - tle air the sun - shine and the rain, that
 all our days, and with the Fa - ther's Name, and



thine the beau - ty and the joy with which the years are crowned.
 kind - ly earth with time - ly birth may yield her fruits a - gain:
 with the Ho - ly Spi - rit's gifts, the Sa - vior's love pro - claim.

Rogation Days.

Words: Edward White Benson (1829-1896), alt.

Music: *Kingsfold*, English melody; adapt. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

CMD

Surely It Is God Who Saves Me



1 Sure-ly it is God—who saves me; trust-ing him, I shall not
2 Make his deeds—known to the peo- ples; tell out his ex - alt - ed



fear. For the Lord de - fends and shields me and his sav - ing
Name. Praise the Lord, who has done great things; all his works his



help is near. So re - jice as you draw wa - ter from sal -
might pro - claim. Zi - on, lift your voice in sing - ing; for with



va - tion's liv - ing spring; in the day of your de -
you has come to dwell, in your ve - ry midst, the



liv - erance thank the Lord, his mer - cies sing.
great and Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.

Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944); para. of *The First Song of Isaiah*
Music: Thomas Merton, Ray W. Urwin (b. 1950)

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LEVAS 35

O How He Loves You and Me

1. O how He loves you and me. _____
2. Je - sus to Cal - vary did go, _____

1. O how He loves you and me; _____
2. His love for the worlds to show; _____

1. He gave His life, what — more could He give;
 2. What He did there brought — hope from de - spair;

1. O how He loves you, O how He loves me,
 2. O how He loves you, O how He loves me,

1. O how He loves you and me. _____
 2. O how He loves you and me. _____

Words: Kurt Kaiser (b. 1934)
 Music: Kurt Kaiser
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488

Be Thou My Vision

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3 High King of hea - ven, when vic - tory is won,

all else be nought to me, save that thou art—
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 may I reach hea - ven's joys, bright hea - ven's Sun!

thou my best thought, — by day or by night,
 thou my great Fa - ther; thine own may I be;
 Heart of my heart, — what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 thou in me dwell - ing, and I one with thee.
 still be my vi - sion, O Ru - ler of all.

Words: Irish, ca. 700; versified Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931);
 tr. Eleanor H. Hull (1860-1935), alt.
 Music: *Slane*, Irish ballad melody; adapt. *The Church Hymnary*, 1927

10 10. 9 10

LEVAS 151

One Bread, One Body

One bread, — one bod - y, —

— one Lord of all, — one cup of

bles - ing which we bless. — And we, — though

Words: 1 Corinthians 10:16, 17; 12:4; Galatians 3:28; The Didache 9

Music: John B. Foley, SJ

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man - y, _____ through - out the earth, we are one

Last time ⊕

bod - y in this one _____ Lord. _____

Last time ⊕

1. Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or
 2. Man - y the gifts, man - y the
 3. Grain for the fields, scat - tered and

1. free, wom - an or man, _____
 2. works, one in the Lord _____
 3. grown, gath - ered to one _____

D.S.

1. — no more. _____ One
 2. — of all. _____ One
 3. — for all. _____ One

D.S.

⊕ CODA

Lord. _____

400

All Creatures of Our God and King

1 All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voic-es, let us
 * 2 Great rush-ing winds and breez-es soft, you cloudsthat ride the heavens a -
 * 3 Swift flow-ing wa-ter, pure and clear, make mu-sic for your Lord to
 4 Dear mo-ther earth, you day by day un-fold your bless-ings on our
 5 All you with mer-cy in your heart, for-giv-ing o-thers, take your
 * 6 And e-ven you, most gen-tle death, wait-ing to hush our fi-nal
 7 Let all things their cre-a-a-tor bless, and wor-ship him in hum-ble-

1 sing: Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia! Bright burn-ing
 2 loft, O— praise him, Al-le-lu-ia! Fair ris-ing
 3 hear, Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia! Fire, so in-
 4 way, O— praise him, Al-le-lu-ia! All flowers and
 5 part, O— sing now: Al-le-lu-ia! All you that
 6 breath, O— praise him, Al-le-lu-ia! You lead back
 7 ness, O— praise him, Al-le-lu-ia! Praise God the

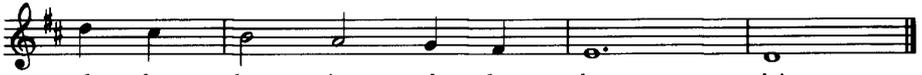


1 sun with gold - en beams, pale sil - ver moon that gen - tly gleams,
 2 morn, with praise re - joice, stars night - ly shin - ing, find a voice,
 3 tense and fierce - ly bright, you give to us both warmth and light,
 4 fruits that in you grow, let them his glo - ry al - so show:
 5 pain and sor - row bear, praise God, and cast on him your care:
 6 home the child of God, for Christ our Lord that way has trod:
 7 Fa - ther, praise the Son, and praise the Spi - rit, Three in One:



Refrain

O praise him, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The refrain may be sung antiphonally, by phrase; all join in the final Alleluia.

Words: Francis of Assisi (1182-1226); tr. William H. Draper (1855-1933), alt.

Music: *Last uns erfreuen*, melody from *Auserlesene Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng*, 1623;
 adapt. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

88. 44. 88 with Refrain



*We are a community forgiven and loved by God,
 joyfully called to the work of reconciliation.*

christchurchcape.org

Notes on the Service

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:44-48 • Ps. 98 • 1 Jn. 5:1-6 • John 15:9-17

As the Easter season moves toward its consummation in Christ's Ascension and Pentecost, the calendar notices the natural phenomena which started with the spring equinox and the paschal full moon, and it provides prayers for crops and herds at Rogationtide, today through Wednesday.

The collect, inspired by the conviction in last Sunday's epistle that, "we love because God first loved us," may have been placed in Charlemagne's mass books by his "secretary of education," Alcuin of Tours, who died May 20, 804.

Acts shows the news of Christ's resurrection spreading far, last week to an Ethiopian, today to the household of a God-fearing pagan, Cornelius, a Roman centurion stationed in Caesarea. After his household has listened to Peter preach, the Holy Spirit falls on them and they begin to speak in other tongues as had the Jerusalem disciples at Pentecost, to the astonishment of Jewish witnesses. (Note this first "Gentile Pentecost" is observed by the lectionary before Jewish Pentecost arrives in the church calendar.) Without any further preparation, Cornelius' household is baptized "in the name of Jesus," a formula later disused in favor of the Trinitarian baptismal words.

"He remembers his mercy...to the house of Israel, and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God," Ps 98:4, might be the comment of the witnesses of the conversion of Cornelius' household. Composed centuries before for use in the second temple, this psalm is a hymn to Israel's God enthroned as King and recognized by the nations, i.e., the Gentiles, and praised by forces of nature as well as by human musicians.

The epistle might be read as a comment on the conversion of Cornelius' house. That event is an exhibit of "the victory that conquers the world, our faith." Believing that Jesus is the Son of God, the converts are born of God. To this birth the Spirit testifies. In John's writings, "water and blood" is shorthand for baptism and sacrifice.

Gospels for the last three Sundays of Easter are from John's account of Jesus' last hours before his arrest. Jesus calls his disciples more than servants, friends, whom he has chosen (rather than their having chosen him, thus precluding anyone's claiming credit for having picked Jesus.) "Whatever you ask in my Name" does not mean that tacking "in Jesus' Name" on the end of any prayer will guarantee success; it means that when one is abiding in Jesus' love, then one wills whatever God wills, as Jesus so wills. At the end of this passage, Jesus commands his disciples to love one another and to go and bear fruit (fruit such as Cornelius).

Rev. Stephen Weissman
Saint Louis, Missouri